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HARTLEPOOL PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER

of HEALTH

For the Year ended 31st. of December,

1945

By Arnold S. L. Biggart,

M.B., Ch.B.

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HARTLEPOOL PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

1946

Chairman - - T. T. AIRD

Elected by West Hartlepool Corporation:

A. Hyde, J.P., Kenmara, Park Road, West Hartlepool.
E. Bloom, Castlewood, Elm Grove, West Hartlepool.
T. W. Pinkney, 4 Wilton Avenue, West Hartlepool.
E. Harbron, J.P., 17 Alverstone Avenue, West Hartlepool.
E. E. Dufour, 21 Beachfield Drive, West Hartlepool.
S. Metcalfe, 84 Wansbeck Gardens, West Hartlepool.
V. D'Alby, Craigielea, Stockton Road, West Hartlepool.
T. V. Oldefield, 175 Park Road, West Hartlepool.
T. Breward, 37 Wharton Terrace, West Hartlepool.
M. Bloom, J.P., (Mayor) Parkmead, Wooler Road, West Hartlepool.

Elected by Hartlepool Corporation:

J. Metcalfe, 55 Arch Street, Hartlepool.
T. T. Aird, Brunswick Hotel, Hartlepool.
O. F. Bradshaw, 20 Jatson Street, Hartlepool.
C. Croft, 1 Victoria Place, Hartlepool.
A. J. Orley, 202 Hart Road, Hartlepool.

FIXED DAYS OF MEETINGS:
At the Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool

February 21st., 1946	June 20th., 1946	Dec. 12th 1946.
April 18th., 1946	Sept. 19th., 1946	

Each day at 6.15 p.m.

FINANCE AND PORT COMMITTEES:

All the Members of the Authority are Members of these Committees. The Committees meet at 6 p.m. on the same day as the meeting is held.

OFFICERS

Clerk: C. GILBERT BUNTING, Solicitor, Exchange Building, 66 Church St., West Hartlepool. Telephone No. 2850 (2 Lines).
Medical Officer: A.S.L. BIGGART, M.B., Ch.B., 221 Stockton Road, West Hartlepool. Telephone No. 3044.
Deputy Medical Officer: L. J. STONE, M.B., Ch.B., 221 Stockton Road, West Hartlepool. Telephone No. 3044.
Surveyor: F. DURKIN, A.M.I.C.E., Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool. Telephone No. [illegible].
Inspector: R. J. KNOTT, Royal Chambers, Church Street, West Hartlepool, Telephone No. 2015.
Deputy Inspector: G. A. WARD, 16 Frances Street, Hartlepool Tel. 6112.
Rat Catcher: G. MENHENNET, 62 Howard Street, Hartlepool.

ANNUAL REPORT.

West Hartlepool.
January, 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Hartlepool Port Health Authority.

Gentlemen,

In compliance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1945.

During the last twelve months there has been an increase in the amount of shipping entering the Port, 803 vessels as compared with 651 in 1944, but this figure is still below that for 1939 when 1522 vessels entered the port.

There have been no cases of Infectious Disease arriving in the Port during the year.

Under the International Sanitary Convention of Paris and the Deratiaation of Ships Regulations, 8 Deratisation Certificates and 25 Deratisation Exemption Certificates have been issued. This total is an increase on the number issued in 1944.

The number of rats destroyed has been 554, a marked increase from 1944 when 324 were destroyed.

In Docks, Quays and Warehouses 1024 rats were destroyed as compared with 934 in 1944.

The number of nuisances dealt with on board vessels was 62 as compared with 81 in 1944.

The work carried out by your Inspector, his Deputy and the Rat Catcher has been to my entire satisfaction, especially that of the Deputy Inspector, Mr. Ward, who carried out the full duties for two months after the departure of Mr. Abbey, until Mr. Knott took up his appointment.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks for the valuable assistance given to me by the Chief Preventative Officer of H.M. Customs Waterguard and his staff, to Captain Stathers, M.B.E., and his assistant Dock Masters, to the Board of Trade Surveyor, the L.N.E.R.'s Docks Manager and also to the Pilot Master and Pilots for their hearty co-operation with the Officials of this Authority.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Arnold G. L. Biggart,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

1. Number of Vessels Inspected in the Port During the Year 1945.

Table A. (Ministry of Health)

1945	Number Inspected		Number Reported to be Defective	Number of Vessels on which Defects were Remedied	Number of Vessels Reported as having, or having had, during the Voyage Infectious Disease on board.
	By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Health Inspector			
From Foreign	36	236	13	12	-
From Coastwise	48	567	49	43	-
Total: Foreign and Coastwise	84	803	62	55	-

II. Source of Water Supply.

(a) For the Port. The Port is supplied by the Hartlepools Gas & Water Company.

(b) For Shipping. Ships are supplied from the Mains through Hydrants from the several quays or wharves where the service is laid on.

(c) Number of Water Boats and their Sanitary Condition. There are no Water Boats in use for shipping in the Hartlepools.

The Water is very hard but of excellent quality. It is obtained from springs and catchment basins.

III. PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1933 & 1945.

Paragraphs 1 to XI as printed in previous reports, with the necessary amendments.

TABLE C. (Ministry of Health)

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels.

Disease	No. of Cases during 1945.		No. of Vessels Concerned
	Passengers	Crew	
Chicken Pox	-	-	-
Continued Fever	-	-	-
Diptheria	-	-	-
Dysentary	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Relapsing Fever	-	-	-
Small Pox	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Typhus Fever	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-

Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933.

No cases of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Small Pox, or Typhus Fever has occurred on any vessel arriving in the Port during the year. Rats sent for Bacteriological examination were found to be free from Plague infection.

TABLE D. (Ministry of Health)

Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival.

No cases, to be included in Table D were reported.

IV. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS

Paragraphs 1 to 5 in previous reports
as printed.

Deratisation of Ships
Information for Shipowners and Agents

Paragraphs 1 to 8 as printed in previous reports

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR, 1945.

TABLE E. (Ministry of Health)

(1) On Vessels.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	Total in Year
No. of Rats	122	19	228	56	-	-	31	57	-	28	13	- 554

One rat was found dead aboard a vessel and sent for examination, but was found to be free from disease.

TABLE F. (Ministry of Health)

(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Wharehouses.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total in Year
No. of Rats	27	41	59	23	45	80	51	101	69	110	183	235	1024

TABLE H. (Ministry of Health).

Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates Issued During the Year.

No. of Ships	No. of Deratisation Certificates issued after Fumigation with:-						
	H.C.N. (Liquid)	Sulphur	H.C.N. and Sulphur	After Trapping Poisoning etc.	TOTAL	No. of Deratisation Exemption Certificates Issued	TOTAL Certificates Issued
33	7	Nil	Nil	1	8	25	33

Applicable only to those Ports approved by the Minister of Health for the Issue of Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates in accordance with the provisions of Article 28 of the International Sanitary Convention, (Form Port II).

V. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

Table J. (Ministry of Health).

Classification of Nuisances

Nationality of Vessels	Number Inspected during the Year	Defects of Original Construction	Structural Defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to Health
BRITISH	553	Nil	23	33
OTHER NATIONS	250	Nil	2	9

The above is a classification of Nuisances and Defects found to exist on the 803 vessels inspected during the year. The Nuisances or Sanitary Defects were mainly composed of; dirty and verminous crews' quarters and bedding, defective W.C.'s and flush pipes, defective draingage and soil pipes, leaking decks and hawse pipes, defective stoves and funnels, defective port lights, etc. All these nuisances have been abated or are in the process of being abated.

VI. FOOD INSPECTION.

1. Action taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1925, Public Health (Imported Food) Amendment Regulations, 1933, the Imported Milk Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.

There has been very little importation of food and no necessity to take action under the above Regulations.

2. SHELL FISH. Information respecting any shell fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority, stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. Report of any action under the Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations, 1915, or the Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations, 1934.

There are no Shell Fish beds or layings under the jurisdiction of this Authority. There are, however, Mussels, Winkles and Cockles which can be picked from Dock gates, walls and rocks, and which are liable to pollution from sewage. For this reason warning notices are posted from time to time drawing the attention of the public to the dangerous consequences arising from the consumption of such Shell Fish.

Fresh Fish is landed at the Fish Quay, Hartlepool where it is inspected by the Hartlepool Medical Officer and the Sanitary Inspector Unsold Fish and Fish Offal are removed to a factory within the Borough of Hartlepool for conversion to Fish Meal, etc.

3. Number of Samples of food examined by:-

(a) Bacteriologist. Nature of Sample. Result of examination.

(b) Analyst. Nature of Sample. Result of examination.

There has not been any necessity to submit any sample of food for examination during 1945.

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